

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 02458 041720Z
ACTION ARA-10

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R 041645Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO AMEMBASSY LIMA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4748
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 2458

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECIN, BL, CO, CI, EC, PE, VE
SUBJ: CONFERENCE OF ECON/COMM SECTION CHIEFS

REF: LIMA 2601

1. I WAS VERY SURPRISED TO LEARN FROM REFTEL THAT YOU PLAN TO INCLUDE LECTURES BY ANCOM OFFICIALS AND VISITS TO ANCOM HEAD-QUARTERS. I HAD THOUGHT THE PURPOSE OF MEETING WAS IN-HOUSE GET-TOGETHER TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENS AND US INTERESTS. BY GOING PUBLIC US WILL APPEAR TO BE ORGANIZING A CAMPAIGN OF ACTIVE OVERT SUPPORT FOR ANDEAN INTEGRATION. HERE IN BOLIVIA THERE IS SCARCELY ANYONE WHO BELIEVES ANY LONGER IN THE MOVEMENT. CHILE IS OUT. SERIOUS MATTERS ARE UNRESOLVED. AT SUCH A JUNCTURE, VERGING ON A CRISIS FOR THE ANDEAN MARKET, IT SEEMS ILLOGICAL FOR THE US TO BE GETTING OUT IN FRONT.

2. IF PROGRAM IN REFTEL IS STILL TENTATIVE, I WOULD LIKE TO URGE RECONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC ASPECTS--LECTURES BY ANCOM OFFICERS, VISITS TO ANCOM HQS, AND INVITATIONS TO AMBASSADORS FROM COUNTRIES AND STAFF ANCOM TO AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION. IF MATTERS HAVE GONE
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PAGE 02 LA PAZ 02458 041720Z

SO FAR THAT THEY CANNOT BE RECALLED, THEN I REQUEST THAT AN EARLY DRAFT OF A PUBLIC STATEMENT BE PREPARED AND CONSOLIDATED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF EACH EMBASSY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND BEFORE THE MEETING. WE SHOULD AGREE ON HOW THE US OFFICIALLY WILL EXPLAIN WHY IT IS DRAWING TOGETHER ITS ECONOMIC OFFICERS BASED IN ANDEAN CAPITALS TO DISCUSS ANDEAN COMMON MARKET MATTERS.

3. MAY I REPEAT I THINK THAT A PRIVATE SESSION TO MULL OVER DEVELOPMENTS, TO SEE WHERE WE ARE, AND TO CONSIDER WHAT US POLICY WILL BE AND WHAT WE SHOULD DO, IF ANYTHING, IS IN OUR INTEREST. TO APPEAR TO BE ENGAGED IN AN EFFORT TO EXPAND US INTEREST SEEMS QUITE DELICATE AND SUSCEPTIBLE TO MISUNDERSTANDINGS. HERE IN BOLIVIA, THE BEST POLICY IS TO AVOID ANY SEMBLANCE OF ADVOCACY OF INTEGRATION BECAUSE IT WILL RUB BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR PEOPLE THE WRONG WAY. I REGRET SOUNDING A SOUR NOTE ON THE EVE OF THE CONFERENCE BUT WANT TO GET MY VIEWS TO YOU BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE MADE.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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